

# **EU report on implementation of Resolution C-24-01 regarding measures for the conservation of tropical tunas in the Eastern Pacific Ocean during 2025**

*(paragraph 35 report on national compliance scheme and measures taken)*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

This report is submitted pursuant to the obligation contained in paragraph 35 of Resolution C-24-01 to present the updated national compliance scheme and the actions taken to implement conservation measures for tropical tunas in the purse seine fleet.

In 2025, 47 EU vessels were active in the Eastern Pacific Ocean (EPO), of which 4 freezer tuna seiners and 39 longliners<sup>1</sup> flying the Spanish flag, and 4 longliners flying the Portuguese flag.

## **2. RULES RELATING TO CONSERVATION MEASURES FOR TROPICAL TUNAS**

The rules related to conservation measures for tropical tunas in 2025 are set out below for the EU level, and at the national level of Spain and Portugal.

### ***EU level***

The EU has adopted the following legal instruments to transpose into its domestic law the requirements of Resolution C-24-01:

- [Regulation \(EU\) 2021/56](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 January 2021 laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Convention area and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 520/2007
- [Council Regulation \(EU\) 2024/257](#) of 10 January 2024 fixing for 2024, 2025 and 2026 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters, and amending Regulation (EU) 2023/194
- [Council Regulation \(EU\) 2025/202](#) of 30 January 2025 fixing for 2025 and 2026 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters, and amending Regulation (EU) 2024/257 as regards fishing opportunities for 2025
- [Council Regulation \(EU\) 2025/669](#) of 31 March 2025 amending Regulation (EU) 2025/202 fixing for 2025 and 2026 the fishing opportunities for certain fish stocks, applicable in Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters
- [Regulation \(EU\) 605/2013](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 June 2013, amending Council Regulation (EC) 1185/2003 on the removal of fins of sharks on board vessels

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<sup>1</sup> Includes a vessel that changed names in 2026.

Moreover, EU vessels operating in the IATTC Convention Area are subject to monitoring and control measures to ensure that IATTC obligations and the rules of the EU Common Fisheries Policy<sup>2</sup> are fully respected:

- [Council Regulation \(EC\) No 1224/2009](#) of 20 November 2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the common fisheries policy, amending Regulations (EC) No 847/96, (EC) No 2371/2002, (EC) No 811/2004, (EC) No 768/2005, (EC) No 2115/2005, (EC) No 2166/2005, (EC) No 388/2006, (EC) No 509/2007, (EC) No 676/2007, (EC) No 1098/2007, (EC) No 1300/2008, (EC) No 1342/2008 and repealing Regulations (EEC) No 2847/93, (EC) No 1627/94 and (EC) No 1966/2006 (Control Regulation), as amended recently by Regulation (EU) 2023/2842;
- [Regulation \(EU\) 2023/2842](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 November 2023 amending Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, and amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1967/2006 and (EC) No 1005/2008 and Regulations (EU) 2016/1139, (EU) 2017/2403 and (EU) 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards fisheries control;
- [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) No 404/2011](#) of 8 April 2011 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy the EU Control Implementing Regulation, amended by Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/2196;
- [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2025/2196](#) of 17 October 2025 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 as regards access to waters and resources, control of fisheries, surveillance, inspection and enforcement, deduction of quotas and fishing efforts, data and information, and repealing Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011;
- [Council Regulation \(EC\) No 1005/2008](#) of 29 September 2008 establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, amending Regulations (EEC) No 2847/93, (EC) No 1936/2001 and (EC) No 601/2004 and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1093/94 and (EC) No 1447/1999;
- [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2017/218](#) of 6 February 2017 on the Union fishing fleet register;
- [Council Regulation No 2017/2403](#) on the sustainable management of external fishing fleets (SMEFF Regulation).

EU legislation is published in the Official Journal of the EU (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/oj/direct-access.html>) in the official languages of the EU.

### **Spain**

- [Ley 3/2001](#), de 26 de marzo, de pesca marítima del estado (*Law 3/2001 of 26 March, on state sea fishing*)
- [Ley 5/2023](#), de 17 de marzo, de pesca sostenible e investigación pesquera (*Law 5/2023 of 17 March 2023 on sustainable fisheries and fisheries research*)

## **Portugal**

- [Decreto-Lei n.º 35/2019, de 11 de março | DR](#), which establishes the system of penalties applicable to the conduct of commercial sea fishing activities.
- [Decreto-Lei n.º 73/2020, de 23 de setembro | DR](#), which approves the legal framework governing the pursuit of commercial sea fishing and the authorisation, registration and licensing of ships or vessels used in that activity.

### **3. PURSE SEINE VESSELS**

#### **a. Implementation of temporal and spatial closures (paragraph 3)**

The obligation to report and comply with closure periods in 2025 is laid down in Article 37 of Regulation (EU) 2025/202 and Article 4 of Regulation (EU) 2021/56, including the spatial closure known as ‘corralito’.

The prohibition is also contained in section 11 of Spain’s Authorisation for the External Fishing Fleet (ERA) of purse seine tuna vessels in the Pacific Ocean for 2025 and in section 11.2 of Spain’s 2025 National Plan for the Management of Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) (Annex I).

In order to comply with this obligation, on 26 May 2025 the sector submitted its notification of the selected period for the 2025 temporary closure. The vessel ROSITA C observed the summer closure between 00:00 hours on 29 July 2025 and 24:00 hours on 8 October 2025, while the vessels MAR DE SERGIO, ALBATUN TRES, and AURORA B observed the winter closure between 00:00 hours on 9 November 2025 and 24:00 hours on 19 January 2026.

On 26 May 2025, the General Secretariat for Fisheries (SGP) of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food of Spain, through the Sub-Directorate General for Agreements and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations, forwarded this information to the European Commission which transmitted it to the IATTC Secretariat on 27 May 2025.

Furthermore, mandatory compliance with regard to the spatial closure known as the “corralito” is also established in section 11.2 of Spain’s National FAD Management Plan.

In 2025, there were no infringements regarding either the temporary or spatial closures by Spanish vessels. Spain’s Fisheries Monitoring Centre operates an alert system that automatically detects whether a vessel has positions consistent with fishing activity during a closure.

#### **b. Respect of the limit of 1,200 tonnes of BET per year (paragraph 4)**

The obligation not to exceed the annual catch limit of 1,200 metric tons of bigeye tuna is laid down in 2025 is laid down in Article 37 of Regulation (EU) 2025/669 and as amended by Regulation (EU) 2025/202. This obligation is also foreseen in section 11.2 of Spain’s National FAD Management Plan.

The official consumption data, which is finalized in February, is based on a series of inputs to obtain the most accurate figure of actual catches, by cross-checking landing weights, catch weights, VMS data, marketing data, fishing fleet register information, and verification of licenses and authorisations, among other sources. For this reason, it is the data used to verify compliance with this obligation.

On 4 February 2025, the official consumption of bigeye tuna was obtained from the four purse seiners of interest in 2024. This data was submitted to the IATTC Secretariat on. Following a request from the IATTC Secretariat for more detailed information about the consumption of bigeye tuna per vessel and trip, additional information was provided to the IATTC Secretariat on 27 March 2025.

Based on this data, it was determined that the limit of 1,200 tons had not been exceeded by any of the purse seiners. There was therefore no additional closure in 2025.

### **c. Fishing on FADs**

The Spanish-flagged purse seine vessels operating in the EPO are grouped under Class 6 and carry out their fishing activities on FADs.

#### ***i. Compliance with the maximum number of active FADs***

In 2025, the limit for the number of active FADs for class 6 vessels (1,200 m<sup>3</sup> and above) was 340.

Since 2010, Spain's National FAD Management Plan (see Annex II) has been updated annually. Specifically, section 11.2 sets out the established limit on active FADs, while section 12.1 describes the measures implemented for its monitoring. In addition, section 8 of the ERA (Annex I) sets out the obligation to comply with this requirement.

Spain's SGP receives a monthly report from the Marine and Food Research Centre (AZTI) showing the number of active buoys per vessel and per day.

This monthly report was forwarded to the European Commission after review by the Sub-Directorate General for Agreements and Regional Fisheries Management Organizations and the Sub-Directorate General for Control, Inspection and Fight against Illegal Fishing. The European Commission checked these reports and transmitted them to the IATTC Secretariat.

All monthly reports for the period from January to December 2025 were duly submitted, and it was determined that no infringements occurred.

#### ***ii. Compliance with buoy activation and deactivation obligations***

FADs are to be activated exclusively on-board vessels and may be activated or deactivated under certain circumstances, as provided for in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2021/56, as well as in paragraph 8 of the ERA and in paragraph 11 of Spain's National FAD Management Plan.

#### ***iii. Prohibition of deploying and recovering of FADs in the 15 days prior to the selected closure period***

Article 38 of Regulation (EU) 2025/202 and paragraph 11.2 of Spain's National FAD Management Plan set out the obligation to prohibit the deployment of plants in the 15 days prior to the start of the selected closure period and the recovery within 15 days prior to the closure of a number of plants equal to the number of plants on which they launched during that same period.

#### ***iv. Biodegradable and non-entangling materials for the construction of FADs***

Article 6(6) of Regulation (EU) 2021/56 lays down the requirements for the design and deployment of FADs.

Since 2012, Spain's purse seine sector has annually updated the code of good practice (Annex II), which includes measures on plantings, among other matters. In 2025, the code was approved with no amendments.

In 2025, the fleet did not use entangling FADs with the aim of preventing the capture of non-target species, such as turtles and sharks, and ghost fishing.

On the other hand, in terms of the design of biodegradable plantations, most of the FADs are made of bamboo and metal, a material for which the sector is already looking for alternatives.

In 2025, an optimisation project on the use of FADs was carried out. The overall objective of this work is to continue studying the evolution in the use and dynamics of FADs to assess the need to adjust operations and continuously improve the efficiency and sustainability of the fleet.

To this end, the data series will be updated through 2025 to obtain indicators on the effectiveness of the measures implemented and to identify new approaches to reduce the impact of FAD loss and beaching.

#### **d. Processing plants data**

The processing plants data for EU purse seiners operating in the EPO during 2025 was submitted to the IATTC Secretariat on 16 December 2025, with additional information submitted on 13 January 2026 and on 16 June 2026.

## **4. LONGLINE VESSELS**

The catch limit of 500 metric tons for bigeye tuna in EU longline fisheries in the EPO for 2025 was laid down in Article 39 and Annex IL of Regulation (EU) 2025/202. Bycatches of BET by EU vessels did not exceed 500 metric tonnes in 2025.

## **5. CONTROL OF FISHERIES**

Rules on control of fisheries by EU vessels are laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 including for:

- VMS reporting (Article 9);
- Fisheries monitoring centers (Article 9a);
- Automated identification system (Article 10);
- Control of fisheries (Chapter I) including control of use of fishing opportunities, of access to ports, transshipments, and landings;
- Control of fleet management (Chapter II) including fishing capacity, and engine power.

In addition, title III of Regulation (EU) Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/2196 specifies requirements for:

- VMS reporting (Chapter I), including the minimum requirements and technical specifications for vessel monitoring devices, content of vessel position data, responsibilities of the masters of fishing vessels concerning the operation of vessel monitoring devices, and the frequency of transmission of vessel position data;

- Fishing logbook, prior notification, transhipment declaration, and landing declaration (Chapter II);
- Determination of live weight (Chapter III); and
- Sales notes (Chapter IV).

### **Spain**

On 2 June 2025, the GSP submitted to the European Commission a report detailing the functionalities of the vessel monitoring system and the monitoring of fishing activities in accordance with the technical requirements set out in Resolution C-23-11.

### **Portugal**

Portugal's monitoring, control and surveillance activities included:

- [VMS](#):

Vessel monitoring devices are regulated by Decree-law 35/98. VMS positions are automatically transmitted from the vessels via the UN/FLUX protocol to the European Commission.

- Fishing logbook, prior notification, and landing declaration

Fishing logbook, prior notification, and landing declaration are automatically transmitted from the vessels via the UN/FLUX protocol to the European Commission. The current version of the Electronic Fishing Logbook (DPE) application, version 2.2415, for installation on board fishing vessels with an overall length of 12 metres or more can be download [here](#) and the manual is available [here](#). Appropriate procedures are in place in case of failure:

1. The crew member in command or their representative must, from the moment the problem is detected or from the moment they are duly informed by the Fisheries Control and Surveillance Centre (CCVP/FMC-PT), transmit their position every 4 hours, in accordance with Article 4(1) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 2025/1766 of 27 August 2025, and submit the fishing logbook reports and the landing declaration daily and no later than 24:00, in accordance with Article 7(1) of that Regulation.
  2. The vessel must repair or replace the Continuous Monitoring Equipment (CME) as soon as the fishing trip ends. To this end, it must contact one of the accredited companies in accordance with Order No. 4247/2023 of 5 April.
  3. The vessel may only commence a new fishing trip once the CCVP/FMC-PT has confirmed that the CME is operational, or upon receipt of the relevant authorisation issued by the CCVP/FMC-PT (Declaration of Non-Operational Status), in accordance with Article 4(3) and Article 7 of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 205/1766 of 27 August 2025. The Declaration of Non-Operational Status issued by CCVP/FMC-PT contains a QR code/web address which must be used to access the website enabling the submission of the relevant data to CCVP/FMC-PT. The QR code/web address remains active for the duration of the Declaration's validity. Manual available [here](#).
  4. Electronic submission of fishing logbook reports, landing declarations and geographical positions (VMS).
- FCM-PT works 24/7
  - Automated identification system, received in FMC-PT and used for control purposes

- Determination of live weight, regulated by Article 28 on the Use of conversion factors and Article 29 on Calculation method. Also described in the [fishing logbook manual](#).
- Sales notes. Auctions are under the responsibility of public bodies (Docapesca, LotAçor – Região Autónoma dos Açores, Direção Regional das Pesca da Madeira). The sales notes are transmitted electronically from the auctions to DGRM.

## **6. INFRINGEMENTS AND PENALTIES SCHEME**

Rules on control of fisheries by EU vessels are laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009:

- Surveillance (Title VI) including sightings at sea;
- Inspection and proceedings (Title VII) including infringements detected in the course of inspections and related proceedings;
- Enforcement (Title VIII) including measures to ensure compliance, sanctions for serious infringements, point system for serious infringements, and register of infringements;

In addition, specific EU rules on surveillance, inspection and enforcement are laid down in title IV of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2025/2196, which requirements for:

- Surveillance and inspection reports (Chapter I);
- Union inspectors (Chapter II);
- Point system for serious infringements (Chapter III).

### ***Spain***

Failure to comply with any of the measures established in Resolution C-24-01, as well as in the rest of the resolutions, gives rise to the initiation of a sanctioning procedure based on the provisions of the regime of infringements and sanctions of Law 3/01 of 26 March on State Maritime Fisheries (Title V), with the Subdirectorate-General for Control and Inspection and the Fight against Illegal Fishing and the Subdirectorate-General for Legal Affairs and International Fisheries Governance of the SGP being responsible for processing said procedure.

In 2025, no breaches of Resolution C-24-01 were identified for the Spanish fishing fleet.

### ***Portugal***

In 2025, no breaches of Resolution C-24-01 were identified for the Portuguese fishing fleet.